





Technical Bulletin for: Dogwood Borer

Synanthedon scitula (Harris) • Lepidoptera, Sesiidae • SYNSCI



DISTRIBUTION	North America; from southeastern Canada and New England, west to Minnesota, south to Texas.
HOSTS	Flowering dogwood is the primary host, Secondary hosts include American beech, black willow, blueberries, American chestnut, hickories/pecans, pines, mountain ash, hazel, birch, loquat, oaks, and elm.
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT MOTH	Bluish-black with yellow bands on the 2nd and 4th abdominal segments, about 1-2 cm in length.
LARVAE	Cream colored with reddish-brown heads and 15 mm in length at maturity.
EGGS	Pale yellow at first, turning darker with development, oval and small (0.4-0.6 mm)
LIFE HISTORY	Adults emerge in the spring and females lay eggs individually on the bark; preferentially on injured areas. Eggs hatch in about 8-9 days and larvae enter the bark wounds, forming large feeding galleries. It takes approximately a year for larvae to fully mature. Larvae overwinter underneath the bark and resume feeding when temperatures reach above 7 to 10°C. Pupal stage generally lasts a month and empty pupal cases remain visible; protruding from the bark. The typical life cycle consists of one generation per year, but in cooler climate, some larvae have been suspected of taking two years to complete development. More than one generation per year may occur in warmer climates. Borers are found at various stages of development throughout the year.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	(Z,Z)-3,13-Octadecadienyl acetate, (E,Z)-2,13-Octadecadienyl acetate and (Z,E)-3,13-Octadecadienyl acetate in a Red Rubber Septum. Lure Longevity: 30-45 Days	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Traps should be placed at about 1.2 m above the ground for optimal catch. Trap placement higher or lower in the tree may significantly reduce trap catch. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Avoid physical injury to the tree by unnecessary cutting or bruising. Be careful in use of mowers near the base of trees. Brace newly transplanted trees to protect against strong winds. In some cases, wrapping the trunks of new trees will reduce egg-laying of female moths. Maintain optimum growing conditions for trees and remove dead or cankered branches in dry weather.	

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